

3 May 1956

Box 1
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White House

"White House"

(25)

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Establishment of "Situation Room" in White House

1. DCI has been requested by the White House to
 - a. Assist in the planning and establishment of a Situation Room in the White House;
 - b. Provide the necessary intelligence and intelligence information to the White House for the Situation Room, to be maintained on a current basis.
2. The purpose of establishing the Situation Room in the White House is to keep the President and his staff informed of the situation under conditions of "strategic warning" or at any time that the Armed Forces of the U.S. or the United Nations are engaged. During other times the Situation Room would be maintained in a readiness condition.
3. Present plans contemplate that necessary equipment will be installed prior to July, in order that the Situation Room may be in operation during Operation Alert 1956.
4. ~~C.I.A. has initiated~~ *Preliminary* action with respect to 1.a. above. *has been initiated*
5. In view of the fact that compliance with 1.b. will necessarily

involve ~~the~~ furnishing both initially and on a continuing basis of orders

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of battle data, and to avoid delay in the transmission of such data to the White House, it is CIA's suggestion that the respective Services may wish to undertake to provide the necessary O.B. ~~and such other military data~~ as may be required direct to the White House.

6. C.I.A. will undertake to obtain or produce such other data, as required, under 1.b. above.

7. DDI is designated ^{to} ~~effectively~~ to discharge this Agency's responsibilities with respect to 1.a. and 1.b. above.

8. This project will be raised at a forthcoming IAC meeting both for information of the members and to obtain the Services' concurrence to 5 above.

HUNTINGTON D. SHELDON
Acting Deputy Director (Intelligence)

APPROVED:

Director of Central Intelligence